

Macaulay¹ gives a very picturesque description of her flight. Since he wrote, there has appeared an excellent letter from Pepys to Dartmouth, written the night of November 26 by the King's special direction, which explains the reason for the flight, and gives an account of its discovery, which took place about eight o'clock on the morning of November 26.²

All these desertions and the evident untrustworthiness of the army, and the progress of the rising in the north and Midlands, obliged James to treat. But he had no intention of waiting for the return of his commissioners. He had made up his mind to seek safety in flight, Ailesbury vainly urged the King to abandon this fatal resolution and to march, instead, against the rebels in the north. * But in a manner he begged the question viz: "If I should go, who can wonder after the treatment I have found? **My** daughter hath deserted *me*, my army also, and him that I raised from nothing the same, on whom I heaped all favours; and if such betrays me, what can I expect from those I have done so little for? I knew not who to speak to or who to trust; some would have persuaded me that you was confederate with them, but I could not believe it."

*³

Every reader of Macaulay knows his description of the King's flight and of his seizure by the Kentish fishermen somewhere near the island of Sheppey on

December 12*
and of the indignities which he suffered from
his captors*
He remained a prisoner for some days, first at
Faversham
and then at Rochester. A narrative of what
happened
there, written by a Kentish gentleman named
Sir John
Knatchbull, was printed in Notes and Queries
as an illustra-

¹III, 1162-6 (ix).

²Dartmouth MSS., i. 214. Ailesbury (i. 191) also
describes the **flight**.

³Memoirs, i. 195.